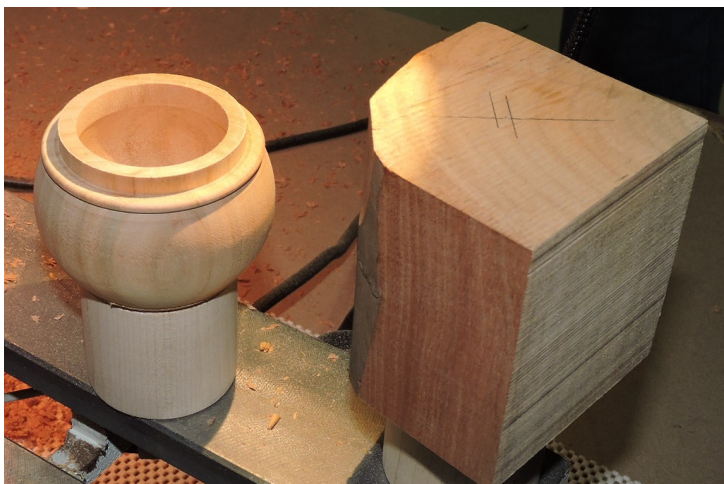




CHATTERMARKS

The eNewsletter for Woodturners of Western Puget Sound

Block to Boxes



In woodturning, our basic goal is to take what some consider firewood and turn it into something useful as well as attractive. Shown above, with many steps in between and many steps left to go, is an example of going from a boxy chunk of wood to the beginnings of a turned box.

Jimmie Allen, our resident box maker, will be giving our October demo on creating boxes like those of his to the right. Jimmie is a seemingly permanent fixture at our sawdust sessions—again teaching box making. He was recently one of the featured turners at the Port Townsend sawdust session held at the School of Woodworking—

demonstrating—boxes.

Usually at our monthly meetings, you can find Jimmie's wares prominently displayed on a plexiglass box at the end of our Show and Tell table. For those of you who do not know Jimmie, personally, he is usually the one showing and telling in the Show and Tell segment of our meetings.

A past board member of many years, Jimmie stepped in at the beginning of last year to fill the slot of VP of Training until we could secure a more permanent replacement in Brad Stave.

Join us on the last Wednesday of October, the 26th, at 6 pm for another great meeting and demonstration on the art of box making. Bring something for our Show and Tell table and also a piece of wood from your stock that you want to donate to the club. Remember half of revenues come from the wood auction.



OCT 2016

Regular meeting is the last Wednesday, of the month

Meet & Greet at 6 PM followed by announcements at 6:30.

**Kitsap Adventist School Gymnasium
5088 NW Taylor Road
Bremerton.**

Other activities include

Featured Demonstration, Refreshments, Show and Tell, Wood Auction, Sandpaper & Glue sales.

See our website at

OPCAAW.COM

TURNABOUTS / BY RUSSELL NEYMAN

Although I only knew him for five days in the 1980's, Jim Cook left a lasting impression on my life. He shared his wisdom through a weekend program known as LIFESPRING. This is my recollection of one of the stories she shared.

THE GREAT BANTU TRIBES of Central Africa have maintained a highly-structured, male-dominated society since ancient times. Villages are built in huge circles on the savanna, with family dwellings clustered along the perimeter, and the common buildings — the village meeting hall, the food storage rooms, and the grand chief's hut — in the center.

These economies were based on barter, but when a formal purchase took place, payment often took the form of cows.

This story relates to one of the most prosperous of these villages ruled by a warrior, King Mwenda. He was known as a wise leader, but he was notoriously foul-tempered and ruled with a stern hand.

Mwenda's kingdom consisted of one main village and several smaller sub-villages, the latter established out of necessity when the primary encampment became too large to be manageable.

One day one of the young warriors, a soft-spoken chieftain named Bubui, approached Mwenda with the idea of creating a sub-village on a far hilltop where the grazing was good, water was plentiful. and there was fertile soil for crops.

The King listened to the would-be chieftain's proposal and nodded with approval. "I have watched you for some time, Bubui, and I know you will be successful. You are wise and a caring leader. I will

grant your wish."

Bubui had a knack for raising livestock, and already he and his brothers owned a large herd of cattle and goats. Within weeks, a new circle of huts had been built on the distant site. Tributes paid to the king began arriving almost immediately.

It wasn't long before the young man returned to the main village with business on his mind. It so happened that the King was standing near the dwelling that housed his many wives and children, angrily yelling and berating the them. One daughter in particular was the subject of his scorn.

"You're worthless," he yelled at the young woman. "You're ugly and stupid and not worthy of the food you eat." She cowered in a dirty corner, slumped-shouldered and trembling, her clothes covered in mud.

King Mwenda brightened up when he saw Bubui.

"Ah, young man! How are you? I have been meaning to come visit your village but have been too busy dealing with these miserable daughters. Doing well, I assume?"

"Yes, Your Highness," Bubui replied. "So well, in fact, that I have come to purchase a queen for my village."

"Ah, of course!" the king said. "Which of my daughters do you choose?"

"In fact, your highness, I wish to buy that one...the one in the corner."

"What?! *THAT ONE? Why on earth would you chose that one? She's dirty and worthless!*"

"No, I have admired her for many years, and that is the daughter I wish to have as my queen."

The king was unimpressed. "I see.... And how much do you offer for this miserable example of a woman?"

"I will pay nine cows."

The Nine-Cow Woman

"Nine cows was generally accepted as the most a man could possibly pay for a woman. No one had ever paid more."

Nine was the number of cows was generally accepted as the maximum that could possibly be paid for a bride, and the king was astonished.

"NINE? You'll pay that much?" yelled the king. "Are you mad?"

"No, Your Highness," Bubui said softly. "I have known her since we were both children and believe she will be a good queen. I insist on paying nine cows for her."

The king relented. "Ok, but I have to say that I have lost some respect for your judgement. I will accept the payment of nine cows, but deliver them three at a time. I would not want others to know that I charged that much for such an unworthy daughter."

The deal was done and the payment made as agreed.

* * *

A YEAR PASSED. King Mwenda finally got away from his everyday responsibilities and paid a long-overdue visit to Bubui's encampment, arriving on a pleasant spring morning.

Mwenda was struck by the high energy in the community. The villagers who had followed Bubui to the far hill were healthy and happy, going about their work with enthusiasm. The herds of cows and goats were large and healthy, the grain warehouse filled, and the houses were neat and freshly painted.

"My, Bubui, you seem to be prosperous. Congratulations."

"Yes, Your Highness, things are well. I am thankful you gave me the opportunity."

Then, the king took note of a commotion coming from the center of the village. A tall, beautiful woman stood in the center of a large group of women and children, smiling broadly and speaking with loving tones. She stood erect and confidently, and it was obvious she was respected and

admired by the villagers.

"My, that woman is beautiful. Is that a new queen?"

"Don't you recognize her, King Mwenda? That's my Nine-Cow Woman."

"No, that cannot be the same daughter. The one you purchased me was dirty and sat slump-shouldered in the corner. This woman looks nothing like that."

"I do not mean to criticize you, My King, but that's because you saw her as worthless. I always saw her as beautiful, and so that's who she became."



Russell Neyman is a writer, woodworker, and historian and is president of the Olympic Peninsula Woodturners. He operates a cabinet shop in Port Orchard and teaches woodturning

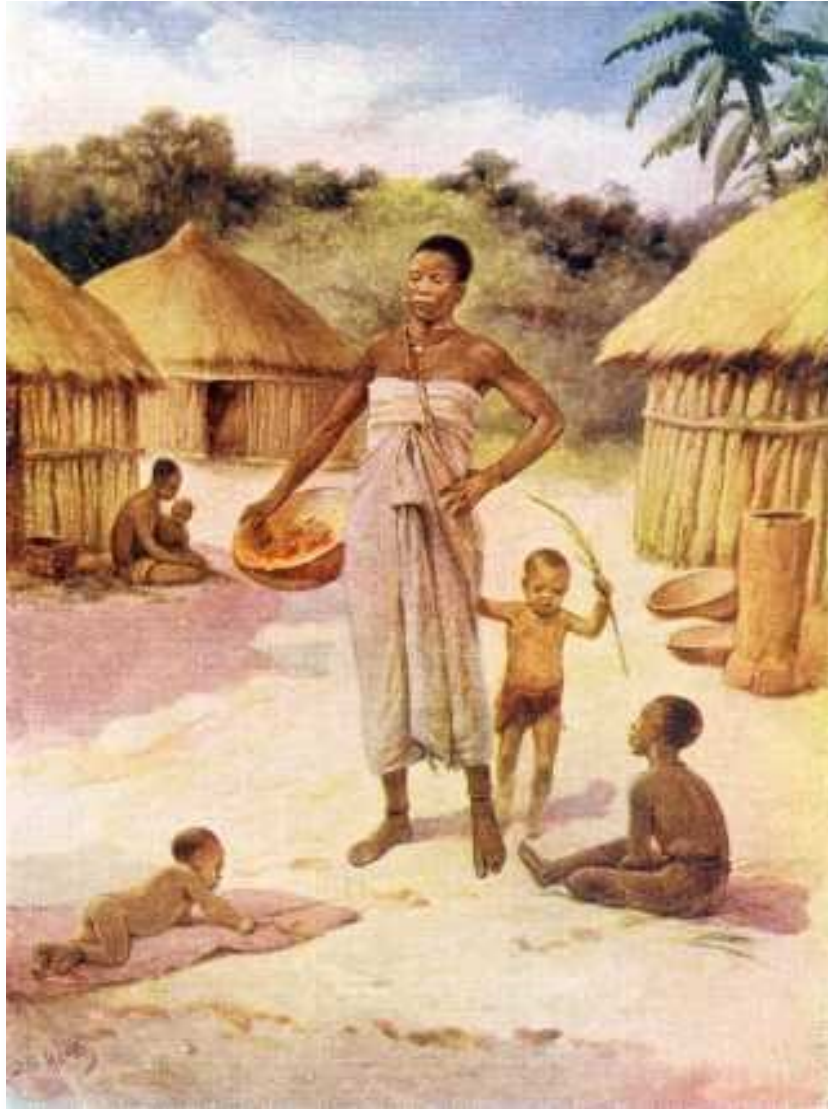


Illustration from "The People of Africa," by Edith A. Howe, c 1921.

Calendar of events, shows, classes and other things

2016

Oct 26—	Monthly meeting. Box making with Jimmie Allen.
Nov 6—	Hands on class on Box making with Jimmie Allen. Limited to 8. \$60 per person fee. Proceeds to go to Video upgrade fund.
Nov 30—	Monthly meeting. Handy Dandy Homemade Tools with Tones Briggs.
Dec 14—	Holiday (Christmas) Woodturners Feast. This is when you find out why you've been writing your name on the back of those tickets when you check in. Pot Luck dinner.

OPCAAW Annual Elections

It seems like we JUST did this, it's time for our annual election of officers. We have enough interested people and enough staff and board positions that there is no heavy burden put on any one person. HOWEVER, there will be several open positions this coming year and we invite any who are interested to step forward to help this club continue in the same level of quality that we have come to expect.

Below is a summary of the positions on the board and an asterisk (*) indicating that there will be a vacancy that needs to be filled.

Our club's annual officer **elections will take place at our November meeting**, and nominations for all seven Board of Director positions are now being accepted. Any member may self-apply or nominate another individual, subject to acceptance by the nominee. Terms are for one year, effective January 1st. Here's a rundown of each position for the 2017 calendar year:

President – Oversees all general and board meetings, and is charged with insuring the smooth operation of the club. Russell Neyman has announced that he will not return after this term. One individual so far has placed his/her name in nomination.

First Vice President of Education – Plans and coordinates all demonstrations open shops and sawdust sessions. Brad Stave has also announced he will not return. One individual has placed his/her name in nomination.

Second Vice President of Public Relations – Edits the club newsletter, prepares all press releases, and oversees the club

website. Jim Conway has indicated that he will run for re-election.

Third Vice President * of Membership – Supervises enrollment, promotes memberships, and maintains all club member lists. Pam Kellington has indicated that she will not run for re-election and there are no nominees as of this date.

Secretary – Handles all club correspondence, takes notes during board meetings and solicits donations for the annual December Holiday Party. Vern West has indicated that he will run for re-election.

Treasurer – Maintains all club financial bank accounts, pays bills, and collects fees and dues. Jon Geisbush has indicated he will run for re-election.

Sergeant-at-Arms * – Sets up the meeting hall, assists with decorum during general and board meetings, and maintains club equipment. Larry Lemon has indicated that he will not run for re-election and has placed his name in nomination for another office and there are no nominees for this position as of this date.

Board meetings are usually held two weeks prior to the monthly general meeting at various sites throughout the peninsula. Officers must be members in good standing (dues paid up) and it is suggested they also maintain a membership in the nationwide American Association of Woodturners. The election will be conducted by Past President Norm Hix.

--RN/NH, October 2016

**nominees for these positions are being sought for the 2017 calendar year.*



*Yo! Y'all
need to pay
'tention to
this stuff.
It be
'portent!*

Hey! I didn't get my newsletter!

A member came up to me last meeting and said that he didn't receive his newsletter.

"Did you change anything, like your email address?"

"Oh, yeah. I did."

~BIG EYE-ROLL~

Guys, reading minds is NOT one of my usual talents, as much as I try.



Video Camera-person needed

Jeff Childs is in need of another video operator—again. A third person is needed so that the load doesn't fall heavily on just one person when the other can't make the meeting. I know, it happens. Comes from having a life outside of the club. Shouldn't be allowed, but we do.

If you have a leaning toward the tech, or would like to learn, please see Jeff (Childs or Nagley)

While you're talking to them, thank them for what they do to make our learning and enjoyment more complete.—JTC

PT SAWDUST SESSION

Brad Stave coordinated with the School of Woodworking located on the Ft Worden campus in Port Townsend to offer a sawdust session to area residents. It was an outreach program to those members and non-members "North of the Hood Canal Bridge."

There were familiar faces of OPCAOW members and there were new faces in the crowd that was pretty much constant all day long.

Demonstrators and their topics were: Jeff Jackson, basic bowl turning; John Elliott, tool control; Jimmie Allen, box making (go figure); Scott Overby, pepper and salt mills; Brad Stave, enhancements; Peter Gerstel, spur of the moment thoughts; Dan Ackerman, finials and other things; and Jim Conway, pens.



PT Woodworking Show

The Olympic Peninsula Woodturners will not be participating in the Port Townsend Woodworking Show for this year.

Because of a complicated set of circumstances, the club was unable to secure a spot in the local show. All of you who had bags of items to donate for sale at the show, now have bags of items for Christmas gifts.—JTC

A Rare Sight—Jimmie Allen doing Boxes!

On November 6, Jimmie Allen will be teaching a "Hands on" class on Box Making. It will be at the school (our usual venue for our general meetings) and has a maximum of 8 slots for students. The class will be from 9 am to 3 pm. Bring your favorite tools with you as you'll be at the lathe at some point.

The cost is \$60 per person with moneys being donated to the video fund. If you haven't already signed up, talk to Jon Giesbush. He'll take your money or put you on a waiting list.

There is no lunch provided, so come prepared; however, there is a rumor that pizza will be ordered, so bring cash.



Annual Burl sale

Each year Dave Schweitzer coordinates the sale of Maple and Madrone burl hauled in from Oregon. This year it will be earlier—Probably the first part of January. The price has increased a little to \$1.50 per pound.

Talk to Ralph Lindberg to reserve your part of the shipment. Remember, if you sign up for burl, you're expected to show up and take delivery of your order.



Find yourself struggling with a vexing situation? Can't seem to resolve a problem?

You could be a candidate for a shop accident.

Keep your mind on what you're doing. Where are your fingers or hands?

What's the worst thing that could happen to you right now?

One of our members is walking around with a splint on his hand—because he lost his focus. It only takes a moment.



Members from left Jon Giesbush, Teacher Tom Wirsing, Brad Stave, Jim Conway, Larry Lemon, Jamie Straw, Sandy Swayze, Ray Ewing, and Tom Salsbury, kneeling showing their day's work at Tom's platter workshop. Also in attendance, Baxter in front.

Tom's Two Step Process Class

Tom Wirsing, our demonstrator for September's general meeting, taught a class on platter making before he headed back home to Colorado. Actually, platters were the media, tool usage, specifically negative rake scrapers, was the class.

Each participant in the class was able to put into action the techniques demonstrated by Tom earlier in the morning. With a light touch and many trips to the grinder, Tom showed how one could rough out the platter (or whatever you're working on) and then using a negative rake scraper and with a very light touch so as to be able to produce a finish that would need little to no sanding. "Angel Hands" Brad Stave says. That light.

It was a pleasure to run my finger tips across Toms platter and feel that almost-no-sanding-needed finish. On my platter, not so much. It will need some sanding. But the good news is, I won't have to start with 60 grit.—JTC



It's beginning to look a lot like—Christmas

Well, maybe not. But it is getting close. As is our normal and usual, the club will be having its annual Christmas dinner—or Woodturners Holiday Feast—on December 14, 2016, a Wednesday. So as to not run into the Christmas week, we'll get a head start on the festivities.

It's a pot luck, and oh, so yummy.

Early-Bird Turning

We continue to offer "Early Bird Turning" on an occasional basis. Bring a piece that you may be having problems with and let the Mentor du jour help you with your issues.

Or you may just want to ask a bunch of questions. "How do you do this?" "How do you know when to....?"

Speaking of Occasional

Jimmie Allen, when he's not scheduled to teach a demo on Box Making, will usually be at the meeting early to help with any sharpening techniques or problems that you may have.

Bring your particular gouge (no, not this month) that you need help with in getting the correct grind.



A proud sponsor of The Olympic Peninsula Woodturners

"The safest thing you can do with a lathe is not turn it on."

- Russell Neyman

Woodturner's Feast

You and your family are invited to join The Olympic Peninsula Woodturners to our Annual Holiday Potluck Dinner, Wednesday, December 14th, starting at 6 o'clock, at the Chico Adventist School Gymnasium. There will be plenty of good food, light entertainment, and dozens of prizes given away.. For additional details and updates, see our newsletter or club website.

OPCAAW will provide ham and turkey, and club members whose last name begins with **A-F** should bring a Side Dish; **G-L** Fingerfood; **M-R** Salads; **S-Z** Desserts.

Volunteers wishing to lend a hand with preparations please contact Pam Kellington at 815-543-6639.



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Jim Conway,
Editor

The Mentoring Program

CONSIDER A MENTOR—The OPCA AW Mentors are a select group of artisans and professionals who we have designated to promote, encourage, and guide novice and intermediate woodturners within our organization. Mentors provide counsel on subjects like shop setup, equipment purchase, safety, wood preparation and specialized skills. These are some friendly folks willing to give you a point in the right direction.

While not actually a formal training program, meetings with mentors often become just that. In some cases, advanced formal instruction is available at

an hourly rate.

OPCA AW Mentoring is available only to members. Please bring your current badge with you to the first session.

The current Mentors are:

Dan Ackerman (Brinnon)	360-796-4155
Tones Briggs (Port Orchard)	360-271-6448
Bob Hickernell (Bremerton)	360-479-5501
George Kromka (Bremerton)	360-373-1028
Jim Leary (Kingston)	360-297-5872
Jim McFarland (Shelton)	903-352-9807
Brad Stave (Gig Harbor)	206-910-5459

OPCA AW Officers & Staff

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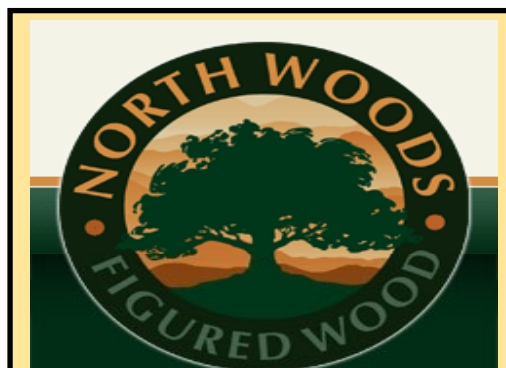
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bowl every
now and
then,
you aren't
trying hard
enough."**

**-- Dick Raffan,
Master
Woodturner**